

We claim:

1. A method of blank pressing a glass body, especially for an optical application, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing a press mold comprising an upper mold part, a lower mold part and, optionally, a ring;

b) receiving a glass body heated above a shaping temperature in said press mold;

c) applying a voltage across the upper mold part and the lower mold part for working the glass body at temperatures above a sticking temperature; and

d) applying a pressing force to the glass body at the latest after a temperature of the glass body in the press mold matches a temperature of the press mold.

2. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said voltage is a D.C. voltage.

3. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said voltage is an unsymmetrical A.C. voltage.

4. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said pressing force is kept constant or reduced when said temperature of said press mold decreases.

5. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said glass body is heated when said glass body is within said press mold.

6. A method of blank pressing a glass body, especially for an optical application, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing a press mold comprising an upper mold part, a lower mold part and, optionally, a ring;

b) receiving a glass body heated above a shaping temperature in said press mold;

c) cooling the press mold after reaching a predetermined temperature of the press mold; and

d) applying a pressing force to the glass body after exceeding a sticking temperature (T_0).

7. The method as defined in claim 6, further comprising applying a voltage across the upper mold part and the lower mold part.

8. The method as defined in claim 7, wherein said voltage is a D.C. voltage.

9. The method as defined in claim 7, wherein said voltage is an unsymmetrical A. C. voltage.

10. The method as defined in claim 6, wherein said pressing force is kept constant or reduced when said temperature of said press mold decreases.

11. The method as defined in claim 6, wherein said glass body is heated when said glass body is within said press mold.

12. An apparatus for blank pressing glass bodies, especially for performing the method of claim 1, said apparatus comprising

a press mold for receiving a glass body heated above a shaping temperature, said press mold comprising an upper mold part, a lower mold part, optionally, a ring, and means for applying a pressing force to said glass body when said glass body is within said press mold; and

means for applying a voltage across said upper mold part and said lower mold part, said means for applying said voltage comprising a cable and a voltage source, said voltage source being connected with said upper mold part and said lower mold part by said cable.

13. The apparatus as defined in claim 12, wherein said voltage source is a D.C. voltage source

14. The apparatus as defined in claim 12, wherein said voltage source is a function generator.

15. The apparatus as defined in claim 12, wherein the press mold is formed with different coated regions having different properties.

16. The apparatus as defined in claim 12, further comprising heat means for the press mold.

17. An apparatus for blank pressing glass bodies, especially for performing the method of claim 6, said apparatus comprising
a press mold for receiving a glass body heated above a shaping temperature, said press mold comprising an upper mold part, a lower mold part, optionally, a ring, cooling elements for cooling and means for applying a pressing force to said glass body when said glass body is within said press mold.

18. The apparatus as defined in claim 17, further comprising means for applying a voltage across said upper mold part and said lower mold part, said means for applying said voltage comprising a cable and a voltage source, said voltage source being connected with said upper mold part and said lower mold part by said cable.

19. The apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said voltage source is a D.C. voltage source

20. The apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said voltage source is a function generator.

21. The apparatus as defined in claim 17, wherein the press mold is formed with different coated regions having different properties.

22. The apparatus as defined in claim 17, further comprising heat means for the press mold.